

Serial No. 09/522,162
Art Unit No. 3623

REMARKS

Claims 1-12 are currently pending in the patent application. In the Final Office Action, the Examiner has finally rejected Claims 1-5 and 7-11 and has indicated that Claims 6 and 12 would be allowed if rewritten in independent format. By this amendment, Applicants herein amend Claims 6 and 12 to place them in independent format, including all of the limitations of Claims 1 and 11 from which they had, respectively, depended. In addition, the dependency of each of Claims 2-5 and 7-10 has been changed to now depend from the allowable Claim 6.

Applicants have canceled the non-allowed claims, without prejudice, so that those claims can be pursued in a divisional patent application. Applicants believe that the submitted amendments place the application in condition for allowance. Entry of the amendments and allowance of the claims is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,
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-7-